Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A positive electrode material for non-aqueous electrolyte lithium ion battery, comprising:

an oxide containing lithium and nickel; and

a lithium compound deposited on a surface of the oxide, the lithium compound covering nickel present on the surface of the oxide,

the lithium compound comprising at least one selected from the group consisting of, lithium phosphorus oxynitride (LiPON), Li_2O-B_2O_3 compound, Li_2O-B_2O_3-LiI compound, Li_2O-SiS_2 compound, Li_2S-SiS_2-Li_3PO_4 compound, ~~lithium hydroxide,~~ lithium acetate, lithium acetylide-ethylenediamine complex, lithium benzoate, lithium carbonate, lithium fluoride, lithium oxalate, lithium pyruvate, lithium stearate, lithium tartrate, lithium bromide, lithium iodide, Li_2S-SiS_2, lithium sulfate;

whereby the lithium compound prevents oxygen radicals being released from the surface of the oxide from decomposing an electrolysis solution; and

whereby gas generation by the decomposition of the electrolysis solution is suppressed.

2. (Original) A positive electrode material according to claim 1,

wherein, when the lithium compound is deposited to cover substantially an entire surface of the oxide, thickness of a cover layer of the lithium compound ranges from 5 nm to 1 μm.

3. (Previously Presented) A positive electrode material according to claim 1, when the lithium compound is deposited to sprinkle on the surface of the oxide, a. volume of the lithium compound ranges from 0.5 to 10 % with respect to that of the positive electrode active material.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) A non-aqueous electrolyte lithium ion battery, comprising:

a positive electrode active material layer comprising a positive electrode material according to claim 1;

a negative electrode active material layer comprising a negative electrode active material; and

an electrolyte layer disposed between the positive and negative electrode active materials layers.

7-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously presented) A positive electrode material according to claim 1,

wherein the lithium compound comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of lithium phosphorus oxynitride (LiPON), Li_2O-B_2O_3 compound, Li_2O-B_2O_3-LiI compound, Li_2O-SiS_2 compound, Li_2S-SiS_2-Li_3PO_4 compound, lithium acetate, lithium acetylide-ethylenediamine complex, lithium benzoate, lithium carbonate, lithium fluoride, lithium oxalate, lithium pyruvate, lithium stearate, lithium tartrate, lithium bromide, lithium iodide, Li_2S-SiS_2, lithium sulfate.

12. (Previously presented) A positive electrode material according to claim 1,

wherein the lithium compound is lithium sulfate.